

The Department of Consumer Affairs, Board of Behavioral Sciences' (DCA/BBS) goals and corresponding objectives and actions are to increase the quality and success of educating and training the public mental health workforce in the expressed values of the MHSA. MHSA funding will be used to develop curricula to train and retrain staff to provide services in accordance with the expressed values of the Act, promote the inclusion of cultural competency in all training and education programs.

BBS will increase the partnership and collaboration of all entities involved in the public mental health workforce education and training by establishing regional partnerships within the public mental health and educational systems in order to expand outreach to multicultural communities and increase the diversity of the public mental health workforce, reduce the stigma associated with mental illness, and promote the use of web-based technologies and distant learning techniques.

DCA's activities reported to DMH for the period 7/1/08 – 12/31/08 are as follows:

Brief summary of the major activities performed during FY 08/09

- Marriage and Family Therapist Education - Developed and began implementing a plan to assist MFT educators with implementation of MHSA-related curriculum content to be mandated by legislation which includes:
 - Training
 - Technical Assistance
 - Resource List
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker Education - Drafted a plan for 2009 committee meetings, researched graduate schools' curricula, worked with committee members, arranged for speakers and prepared materials.
- Wrote article on Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas for an upcoming BBS newsletter

Identify 2 or 3 activities or accomplishments that are considered highlights and help further the intent of the MHSA (e.g., achieving system change)

- Advocated for including an excerpt from the executive summary of the California Strategic Plan on Suicide Prevention in the BBS newsletter (sent to all marriage and family therapists, licensed clinical social workers and licensed educational psychologists in California)

- Invited a speaker to present on recovery to the Board's LCSW education committee and researched and included information about mental health recovery and MHSA for the meeting packet.

Identify activities being coordinated with the local mental health system

None at this time